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FANCY BALL TOILETTES

The fancy ball dresses designed for the mid-winter festival season are particularly fascinating, for they are graceful and becoming. Naturally our models are presented in high-class materials, but each dress can be duplicated in inexpensive stuffs, if one cannot afford the more costly fabrics.

In many instances the foundation dress can be used for other purposes, after it has served as a fancy costume, and to leave it free from blemish it is well to sew all decorative features on to a net, instead of placing them directly on the dress goods.

For instance, if a dress has spangles or stars over the skirt, let these ornaments be secured to net drapery, which can be easily removed; or, if borders of embroidery are desired, have them in bands or sections, and baste on in correct position.

The *Young Ladies' Journal* tells of some most exquisite toilettes. Eastern Night wears a dress of deep azure-blue faille, studded with silver stars, and showing on each side a panel of blue velutina, edged with a band of pink silk and pink and silver embroidery. A scarf of pink, white and silver gauze is loosely knotted at the side, and edged with silver. A shooting star in silver is embroidered on the bodice, and a zouave of blue velutina is edged with silver gilet fringe and studded with stars.

The long-hanging sleeves of mauve gauze are puffed on the shoulders, and edged with silver fringe. Upon her lovely blonde hair the lady wears a turban of mauve-spangled gauze, finished in front with a large silver crescent and star. The accessories to this suit consist of a silver necklace, snake bracelets, mauve gloves, silver shoes, and a spear of blue and white or silver, surmounted with a pink-and-white feather fan.

A quaint-looking suit is that of the Troubadour. The skirt is of tan-colored, thin serge, patched in front and ragged at the edge. A scarf of multi-colored striped cotton, finished at the ends with pompons, is knotted at the side. The full under-bodice of white nainsook is worn under an over-bodice of velutina, which is laced in front, being cut low, and finished with a turn-down collar. The sleeves of nainsook are finished at the top with large white pompons. A red silk handkerchief is tied, round the head, under a large brown felt hat, which is trimmed with two heron plumes and rosette. Brown shoes and

stockings complete the costume, and the troubadour carries a mandolin in hand.

The dress Santuzza wears is pretty and inexpensive. The short skirt is of green cashmere with panier drapery of poppy-red cashmere; the apron is of Roman embroidery edged with fringe. A corselet of black velvet is laced across with red, showing a full chemisette of fine nainsook with an over-bodice of red pongee. The sleeves are very full, and are finished with cuffs of black velvet or velutina. The head-dress is of nainsook, and the stockings and shoes are green with variegated strappings.

Very graceful is the flowing garb of a Greek maiden. The underdress is of red pongee, embroidered at the hem with gold thread. The drapery is of white crepon, finished with a border in key pattern in red silk. This drapery is fastened on the shoulders with gold agates, and the armlets, snake bracelets and the band around the throat are of gold. The hair of the lovely wearer is parted in the middle, waved and knotted loosely at the back, and is ornamented with a gilt fillet. On the feet are flesh-colored silk stockings and sandals.

An intensely American girl with dark complexion will fancy the garb of the Wild West huntress. The skirt of this odd dress is of blue veiling, trimmed at the foot with vandyke bands of gold braid and red ribbon. The full bodice of spotted veiling is secured by a leather waistband fastened with a jeweled clasp. Over this is worn a cloak of fancy cloth edged with red galloon. By way of ornament she wears a necklace of fish-bones and beads, bracelets of beads and a head-dress of feathers and gold. The tomahawk is slipped in the belt, the quiver slung at the back, and she carries the bow in her hand.

The Egyptian princess wears a really elegant dress of striped silk embroidered with gold at the foot. The drapery and train are of bayadere striped pekin edged with fancy gold fringe. The bodice is of satin with chemisette of richly embroidered silk. The girdle is of striped satin, embroidered with gold, and fastened with a gold clasp. The cape of embroidered satin has drapery of white gauze, and is fastened in front with a gilt clasp. The head-dress is of satin, edged with gold, and finished with a gilt ornament, and the bracelets are of blue-and-white enamel and gold. Flesh colored silk stockings are worn with sandals, and in the hand is carried a staff of white-enameled wood finished with an Egyptian ornament. This costume is very striking, and can be worn to advantage by a stately, dark-eyed beauty.

Purely vegetable—Hood's Pills—25c.

LUNCHEONS AT HOME

Society is ever seeking something new in the entertainment line. Afternoon tea has become a part of the day's routine, says the New York *Herald*, and cannot be considered in the light of entertainment, so meager is the fare allowable at those most unsatisfactory functions.

A newer fad with feminine devotees of fashion is the small informal luncheon served in the early afternoon. It forms a pleasant relaxation from the rounds of calls, etc., and offers more inviting refreshment than papery slices of bread and cups of too often miserable tea.

At the present these luncheons are strictly feminine affairs. This is the way the invitations read:

MRS. ROLAND DE ROLAND,
300 Avenue De Peyster. Thursdays.
Luncheon, 2 to 4.

These luncheons are as elegant as one can afford to make them, are always cold, with the exception of the tea and coffee. Sauterne and claret are the only wines used and they are on the buffet and not on the table.

The table, which is set in the middle of the dining room, is always decorated with flowers, and the dishes are made as attractive as possible. There is also an endless variety of dishes that may be served at such an entertainment. The following bill of fare will serve for one of them:

Consomme.
in cups, cold.
Mayonnaise.
Meats—Cold.
Boiled Ham. Roast Beef.
Chicken Salad.
Cheese.
Cream and Gorgonzola.
Biscuits.
Ice Cream in Forms.
Coffee. Tea. Chocolate.
Fruit.

These luncheons are informal affairs, and the guests will serve themselves without trouble, and it is only necessary to have one waiter or waitress about, who should always be ready to serve the wine and other beverages from the buffet and side tables and to remove the dishes and to keep the table in order

and to carve if required.

CHICKEN SALAD—There should be two bowls of the salad, and the mayonnaise should be put on the salad when it goes on to the table. To make the salad have the chicken boiled the day previous and set away in a cold place; when ready to make the salad remove all the skin from the chicken, cut it in small dice in a large bowl, season with salt and pepper, a little oil and tarragon vinegar, and add some small capers. Then cut your celery in dice and mix it with the chicken. Put it in the salad bowls and press it down a little with your hands around the sides so it is the shape of a mound. Just before you put it on the table pour the mayonnaise over it and decorate it with olives from which the pits have been removed, with hard-boiled eggs cut in quarters and lemons cut in the same way, with seeds removed. Garnish the edge of the bowl with white lettuce leaves.

Have the joints all cooked the day before and served whole. Garnish them handsomely with parsley and a little jaelin favors. Boil a whole salmon and lay it on a long platter in a bed of lettuce leaves. Pour over it a bottle of capers or some tarragon vinegar. Decorate it handsomely with sliced lemon hard-boiled eggs cut in length-way slices and some sprigs of parsley. Stand the dish of mayonnaise dressing near it so one may use it as liked.

What Do You Take Medicine for? Because you are sick and want to get well, or because you wish to prevent illness. Then remember that Hood's Sarsaparilla cures all diseases caused by impure blood and debility of the system. It is not what its proprietors say but what Hood's Sarsaparilla does, that tells the story of its merits. Be sure to get Hood's and only Hood's.

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